



In re Application of:  
Bernd-Georg Pietras

Serial No.: 10/621,971

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR FACILITATING THE  
CONNECTION OF TUBULARS  
USING A TOP DRIVE

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Customer No.: 36735

**MAIL STOP**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

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37 CFR 1.8

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Jason C. Huang  
Typed Name

Jason C. Huang  
Signature

Dear Sir:

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The Applicants, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While the information submitted in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0039.C1/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Application Number

10/621,971

Filing Date

July 17, 2003

First Named Inventor

Bernd-Georg Pietras

Group Art Unit

3672

Examiner Name

Frank Tsay

Attorney Docket Number

MRKS/0039.C1

Submission Date

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A1                    | US- 6,142,545                            | 11-07-2000                     | Penman et al                                       |                                                                                 |
|                    | A2                    | US- 5,988,273                            | 11-23-1999                     | Monjure et al                                      |                                                                                 |
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|                    | A4                    | US- 5,839,330                            | 11-24-1998                     | Stokka                                             |                                                                                 |
|                    | A5                    | US- 5,785,132                            | 07-28-1998                     | Richardson et al                                   |                                                                                 |
|                    | A6                    | US- 5,706,894                            | 01-13-1998                     | Hawkins, III                                       |                                                                                 |
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|                    | A9                    | US- 4,936,382                            | 06-26-1990                     | Thomas                                             |                                                                                 |
|                    | A10                   | US- 4,781,359                            | 11-01-1988                     | Matus                                              |                                                                                 |
|                    | A11                   | US- 4,709,766                            | 12-01-1987                     | Boyadjieff                                         |                                                                                 |
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|                    | A13                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A14                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A15                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A16                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A17                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A18                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document                  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                    |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B1                    |                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
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|                    | B3                    |                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B4                    |                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B5                    |                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |

Examiner

Date Considered

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